

A **complex sentence** has **one independent clause** plus **one or more dependent clauses**. A dependent clause is a group of words that can not stand alone and does not express a complete thought. You can recognize a dependent clause by words such as: when, why, because, whenever, though, as if, although, if, until, how, while, unless, after, before, as, so that, unless, since, where, who, whose, whom, which, and that.

Examples of complex sentences:

- **When** you're ready to leave, let me know.
- I can't help you **unless** you explain the problem.
- We will be late **if** you don't hurry up.
- **While** you complete the writing, I'll finish the artwork.
- He ate the tacos, **which** made him sick.

Each dependent clause can not stand alone, and needs the independent clause to make sense. For each sentence, underline the key word that tells us it is a complex sentence.

1. I wanted to go to the park, although it was dark.
2. I will finish this project while you start the next one.
3. We will go to the store unless you don't clean your room.
4. We can go shopping if you want to.
5. I pulled the cover off so that you can wash the bed.